

**REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request cancellation of claims 2, 10, 11, and 14-81, without prejudice or disclaimer, and also entry of new claims 82 and 83. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification, including paragraphs [0010], [0012], [0014], [0047], [0053], [0058], [0065], [0069] – [0073], [0077] – [0080], [0099], [0101], [0102], and [0115], Figures 2, 3, and 4, and the originally filed claims and, therefore, do not add new matter.

As indicated in the Office Action of December 27, 2006, claims 1, 3-9, 12, and 13 are allowed. Regarding claims 23, 25, 26, 36, 38, 48, 80, and 81, while Applicants do not acquiesce to the reasoning offered in the Action, and to expedite prosecution toward allowance, Applicants have canceled these claims. As such, the rejections of record are rendered moot. The new claims 82 and 83 recite methods which include multiplexing with microsatellite markers, which is supported in the specification as recited above.

Therefore, Applicants submit that pending claims 1, 3-9, 12, 13, 82, and 83 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request entry of new claims 82 and 83.

In re Application of:  
Ferrie et al.  
Application No.: 10/754,437  
Filing Date: January 9, 2004  
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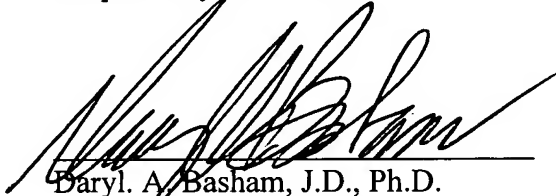
PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. MMII130-1

**Conclusion**

Applicants submit that pending claims 1, 3-9, 12, 13, 82, and 83 are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if there are any questions relating to this submission.

No fee is deemed necessary with the filing of this paper. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees required by this submission, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 07-1896 referencing the above-identified docket number. A copy the Transmittal Sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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